Artigo 1 - 26/07/1989

A regretful birch SOS. A Hokkaido Prefectural Police helicopter accidentally photographed the remains, more than a winter has passed - Skeletons of a missing person discovered on Mt. Asahidake
1989/07/26 (Wed)1989/07/26 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Charts, page 23, 1026 characters
[Asahidake Onsen] On the 25th, it was discovered that a helicopter of the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Aviation Unit, which was working on rescuing mountaineers, had taken a photo of a marshland in the middle of Mt. Asahidake (2,290.2 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains, and a large "SOS" lettering that appeared to have been made artificially using tree branches was visible in the photo.
The unit flew the helicopter again on the same day to investigate, and an investigator landed on the ground and discovered what appeared to be human bones nearby. There was also a backpack next to the bones, and the missing person pinned his hopes on drawing a large "SOS" with tree branches and waited for an airplane to find him, but it appears that he ran out of strength. The identity of the bones is unknown. The Hokkaido Prefectural Police are working quickly to identify the bones and are also investigating whether there have been any missing people who have entered the mountain in the past.
The letters "SOS" were discovered by a helicopter from the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Aviation Squadron, which was involved in a search and rescue mission for an unemployed man (62) from Tokyo who went missing on the 24th while heading from Mt. Kurodake to Mt. Asahidake and was rescued safely. A photograph was taken and developed, which confirmed that the letters were man-made, and the Aviation Squadron was dispatched again on the 25th, where a police officer from the mountain rescue team descended to the site and discovered the bones.
According to the investigation, the letters were found near a stream called "Yukiyuzawa," about 4 kilometers south-southeast of the summit of Mt. Asahidake, at an altitude of 1,400 to 1,500 meters, and each side is about 5 meters square. They were made by stacking several fallen birch trees that were thought to have been in the surrounding marshes. Judging from the dead grass tangled around it, parts of the tree buried in the soil, and the weathering of the wood, it is believed that it was not made recently, but that at least one winter has passed since then.

The bones consist of three pieces, a femur and part of a pelvis, and have turned white. A backpack was also found nearby. The backpack contained a cassette tape recorder, tapes, and toiletries, but was unnamed.

In the Daisetsu mountain range, a company employee (48) from Tokyo went missing in June this year while heading from Mt. Kurodake to Mt. Asahidake, but judging from the SOS message and the circumstances, it is believed that there is no connection to this company employee.

The Hokkaido Prefectural Police are investigating missing persons going back several years.

According to the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Field Service Division, one missing person that has been reported is a man from Aichi Prefecture (25 at the time) who climbed Mt. Asahidake in July 1984, five years ago, and is still missing.
Doushin Article Database
https://db.hokkaido-np.co.jp/article_detail?kijiid=890727MA0031&m=p

COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.
All intellectual property and other rights related to this service belong to the Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. This service cannot be used by third parties other than the subscriber, regardless of the method, whether paid or free.
5) = is still missing.
The melting snow valley is quite far from the hiking trail, and in summer it is a marsh that makes it difficult to walk, and in winter the valley is also at high risk of avalanches, so it is said that ordinary hikers do not enter this area. From these points, it is highly likely that he got lost from the ridge course.

Artigo 2 - 26/07/1989

SOS on Mt. Asahidake, human remains may be Iwamura from Aichi
1989/07/26 (Wed)1989/07/26 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Evening Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 11 418 characters
[Asahikawa] On the 26th, an investigation by the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Field Service Division revealed that the only person who had gone missing in the area around the site before last year and had been reported was Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), a company employee from Shochiku Ueno, Konan City, Aichi Prefecture, who disappeared in 1984. The division believes that the remains may be Iwamura's, and is contacting his parents who live in Kyoto City, while also requesting a detailed examination from Asahikawa Medical University to confirm the gender and identity.
However, there is still the possibility that someone entered the mountain without registering. According to the investigation, Iwamura entered Hokkaido between July 10th and 15th 1984, telling his family that he was going to Mount Daisetsu to take photographs. When he did not return on the 16th, the day he was scheduled to return home, a missing person report was filed with the Hokkaido Prefectural Police.
Iwamura was said to be 165cm tall, wearing a navy blue shirt and trousers, and carrying a knapsack and three or four cameras.
The tapes found at the scene are old and cannot be played immediately, so the Hokkaido Prefectural Police are rushing to conduct a detailed examination.

Artigo 3 - 27/07/1989

"SOS" seen from above, like a matchstick - Mt. Asahi

1989/07/27 (Thu)1989/07/27 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 330 characters
The letters "SOS" were clearly legible in the lush green marshland. On the afternoon of the 26th, a helicopter from the Hokkaido Shimbun Company flew to the middle of Mt. Asahi (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains and looked at the area from about 200 meters above.
(Reporter Nagayama Wataru)
The helicopter headed west along a deep stream on the south side of the summit of Mt. Asahi. At the very back of the marshland dotted with large and small swamps, between the coniferous trees, the letters were in a place that looked like a clearing about the size of a cat's forehead from the air. We lowered our altitude. It reminded us of a matchstick arrangement. The color was a dull white.
The summit of Mt. Asahi was 3 kilometers due north. If you climb a deep valley about one kilometer from the site, you should be able to see the peak. There is a ropeway to the base, and many tourists visit. Each letter looks to be the size of a passenger car. The pilot said, "It would be hard to notice if you were flying normally."

Artigo 4 - 27/07/1989

Asahidake's SOS, backpack, and other items left behind are made public. Osaka's shopping bag is also included
1989/07/27 (Thu)1989/07/27 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 799 characters
[Asahikawa] The Hokkaido Prefectural Police Asahikawa District Headquarters and Asahikawa Higashi Police Station, which are investigating the accident on the 25th in which the letters "SOS" and human bones were found in a valley on the south side of Asahidake (2,290 meters above sea level) in the Daisetsu Mountains, made public items left behind, such as a backpack, near the scene on the 26th, and are seeking information on the identity of the person. Information is being sought.
Twelve items were made public. A gray cloth backpack, four cassette tapes, a small radio cassette, a traffic safety charm, a toothbrush, shampoo, and other toiletries, as well as pieces of underwear and trousers. Both were wet when they were discovered, and from the way they were damaged it appears they had been left there for several years, but the cassette tape may be playable if it is dried.

The traffic safety charm inside had "Sanno Shrine" written on it, and was likely sold at a Sanno Shrine in Tokyo, Yamagata, or Miyazaki. In addition, a white plastic shopping bag with "Kozo Sushi Headquarters" printed on it had the address "Sumitomo Life Honmachi Building, 7th floor, 19 Yasu (Tsuchi)-cho 4-chome, Higashi-ku, Osaka City" printed on it. The cassette tape case had a picture of a girl from the animation on it.

Regarding the identity of the victim, the police believe that it may be Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), an office worker from Shochiku Ueno, Konan City, Aichi Prefecture, who is believed to have entered the mountain in July 1984, or that it may be someone who got lost without filing

a mountain entry notification. Sergeant Koichi Kasahara (44) of the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Mountain Rescue Team, who landed by helicopter on the 25th at the melting snow valley where the wooden letters "SOS" were located and retrieved the remains, said, "It takes more than ten trees to make one letter, so it would take one person half a day to make three letters."

This area is off the normal hiking trail, but it is possible that someone could have mistakenly stumbled upon it from the trail that goes south from Mt. Asahidake and passes through Kaneko-iwa.

Chief Kasahara said, "After a week, the surrounding grass would have grown and hidden the wooden letters, making it difficult to find them from the air."

Doushin Article Database
https://db.hokkaido-np.co.jp/article_detail?kijiid=890727MA0183&m=p
1 of 2 11/22/24, 8:59 PM
COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.
All intellectual property rights and other rights related to this service belong to The Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. In addition, this service cannot be used by any third party other than the contracting party, regardless of the method, whether paid or free of charge.

Artigo 5 - 27/07/1989

Remains of the Asahidake "SOS" tape - a voice saying "Help me." A man? Drying and identification rushed
1989/07/27 (Thu)1989/07/27 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Evening Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 11 399 characters
[Asahikawa] In the accident where the letters "SOS" and human bones were found on the 25th in a valley on the south side of Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains, Hokkaido Police Asahikawa District Headquarters and Asahikawa Higashi Police Station on the 27th proceeded with the identification of the cassette tape found in a backpack found near the wooden letters, and attempted to play a portion of it.
As a result, a human voice could be heard faintly saying "Help me" as if the tape was stretched. It sounds like a man's voice, and the police station believes it may have been recorded by the victim, and is continuing the drying process of the tape to further examine it, determine whether it is a man or a woman, and obtain clues to the identity of the victim.
In addition to the tape, the items left behind included a plastic shopping bag and a traffic safety charm, and police are working quickly to gather information that could lead to the identity of the deceased, using clues such as the address of "Kozo Sushi Headquarters" printed on the shopping bag (Sumitomo Life Honmachi Building, 7th floor, 19 Yasu (Tsuchi)-cho 4-chome, Higashi-ku, Osaka City).

The human bones found near the wooden letters were examined at Asahikawa Medical University on the same day. The shape of the pelvis suggests that it may be that of a woman.

Artigo 6 - 27/07/1989

[Asahikawa] On the night of the 26th, a university student from Tokyo who was climbing Mt. Asahidake on the east side of the Daisetsu Mountains reported to the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Asahimoto that he had found what appeared to be human bones in the grass about four meters off the hiking trail.

The Asahikawa Higashi Police Station ordered seven officers who had been sent to Mt. Asahidake early on the 27th to investigate the relative location of the discovery site of the "SOS human bones" to rush to Uraasahi.

The bones were found almost halfway between Mt. Asahidake and the Ushiroasahi campsite on the southern slope. About four kilometers north from the location where the SOS wooden letters were found. Given the circumstances, it is possible that they were boulders.

In the Daisetsu Mountains, a company employee (48) from Tokyo went missing while heading from Mt. Kurodake to Mt. Asahidake in June this year, and according to the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Asahimoto Field Division, there is only one missing person who has been reported but is a company employee from Aichi Prefecture, Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), who climbed Mt. Asahidake in July 1984.

Artigo 7 - 28/07/1989

[Asahikawa] On the 25th, wooden letters saying "SOS" and human bones were found in a valley on the south side of Mount Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains. The human bones that the Hokkaido Prefectural Police Asahikawa Regional Headquarters and Asahikawa Higashi Police Station had requested Asahikawa Medical University to examine were identified as being female on the 27th. A cassette tape left behind played a young man's voice saying "SOS, help me," raising the possibility that the missing couple were a man and a woman. On the 28th, the police station will again send searchers by helicopter to the area around the scene to check for clues to identify the body.

The human bones examined by the medical university were a total of four pieces, including a 41-centimeter-long left femur and part of a pelvis. Based on the shape of the pelvic bone, it was determined that the victim was female, and that she was 20-40 years old, around 160

centimeters tall, and had been dead for 1-3 years. Her blood type is expected to be determined by the 28th.
The recording was of a young man's voice, at the end of side A of the four cassette tapes that were left behind, which was in a radio cassette player. For two minutes and seventeen seconds, the man yelled out, one word at a time, "SOS, help me. I'm stuck on a cliff," calling for rescue. The rest of side A, side B, and the other three tapes all contained music from idol singers and anime movies. Police believe that the man's voice "was intended to play a recording of him yelling at full volume to call for rescue from search teams and nearby hikers." Police are also working quickly to confirm whether a helicopter has flown near the scene in the past during searches for missing people, as there is a passage in the tape that says, "The location is where the helicopter was originally located." Regarding the "SOS" letters, a man who works for a topographical map production company in Sapporo saw what looked like letters in a valley on the southern slope of Mt. Asahidake on September 20, 1987, when he was flying a light aircraft over the area to take aerial photographs. Because light aircraft fly at a higher altitude than helicopters, the letters could not be clearly deciphered, and since there had been no reports of missing people in the Daisetsu mountain range at the time, he did not pay it much attention. Based on these clues, the police believe that it is highly likely that at least two people, a man and a woman, have been missing in the area in recent years, and on the morning of the 28th, they will fly a helicopter to the scene, drop off four searchers, and investigate whether there are any other clues that could lead to the identities of the people. *Camera parts also found

On the other hand, the police believe that the items may have belonged to Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), an office worker from Aichi Prefecture who went missing in July 1984 after entering the Daisetsu mountain range to take photographs, as the voice on the tape was young and some of the items left behind included parts of a battery box for a Minolta camera's automatic film winding device.

In addition, as camera parts from the same manufacturer as the camera Iwamura had when he went missing were found at the scene,

the police have asked his parents, who live in Kyoto City, to listen to the voice on the tape over the phone. However, it is not possible to confirm the identity of the person over the phone alone, and in order to speed up the confirmation, they plan to call in Iwamura's former coworker soon to check the tape and other belongings left behind. In addition, in order to identify the woman whose bones are found, they are requesting information from police stations across the country about missing persons.

On the night of the 26th, the police received information that what appeared to be human bones had been found on the east side of Mount Asahi in the Daisetsu Mountains, and on the 27th, officers from the same station checked the site and found that it was a stone the size of a human head.

*Astro Boy is the clue? *Astro Boy is the clue?

A description that is very similar to the wooden letters that spell "SOS" appears in the late Osamu Tezuka's "Astro Boy: The Book of Ivan the Fool." The spaceship that Astro Boy is on breaks down and makes an emergency landing on the moon, and Astro makes SOS letters out of wood on the surface of the moon, calling for help from Earth.

The victim of Mount Asahi had illustrations of cartoon characters pasted on the case of a cassette tape that was left behind, so it is possible that he was inspired by Astro Boy's rescue method.
<Contents of the tape recording> <Contents of the tape recording>
SOS, help me, I'm stuck on the cliff
SOS, help me, I'm stuck on the cliff
SOS, help me SOS, help me
The place was where the helicopter was originally
The bamboo grass is so deep I can't go up
Doushin article database
https://db.hokkaido-np.co.jp/article_detail?kijiid=890728MA0050&m=p
2 of 3 11/22/24, 9:00 PM
COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.
All intellectual property and other rights related to this service belong to the Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. In addition, this service cannot be used by any third party other than the contracting party, regardless of the method, whether paid or free of charge.

Please pull me up from here

Artigo 8 - 28/07/1989

"SOS" on Mt. Asahidake, easy to get lost on mountain, no map - possibility of mistaking safe rock. Items left behind indicate two young people unfamiliar with the mountain
1989/07/28 (Fri)1989/07/28 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Charts 26 pages 1344 characters
[Asahikawa] The owner of the human bones is a woman. The cassette tape is a man's voice desperately calling for rescue. On the 27th, a wooden letter "SOS" and human bones were found in a valley on the south side of Mt. Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains, and the identification of the individual was one step closer with the bones being examined by Asahikawa Medical University, but there is still a lack of a decisive factor to identify the individual. Let's look into the circumstances of the accident, which still remain mysterious.
<Tape and wooden letters><Tape and wooden letters>
The voice on the tape speaks slowly and loudly, with words separated into separate parts. However, the deep breathing sounds and the words "Help me. I'm stuck on the cliff" make it sound like an extremely urgent situation. Regarding the relationship between this and the making of the wooden letters, which requires a great deal of time and effort, a local climber speculates that "first the man and woman worked together to make the wooden letters, and then the man encountered an extremely dangerous situation and recorded a voice calling for rescue, but ran out of strength." However, Kiyoshi Hayami, president of the Asahikawa

Mountaineering Club, said, "It's also possible that the man got into some kind of danger before making the wooden letters and recorded his voice on the tape," citing that the tape was found near the wooden letters and there were no cliffs, and that the situation is still foggy. On the other hand, the relatively high tone of the voice suggests that the man is a student or in his twenties. The cassette tape found at the same time contained music for young people, and the woman's age also appears to be young, as there was a picture of a young anime girl on the case. <Estimated route>
Given the geographical conditions of the melting snow valley where the body was found, which means it is inaccessible from below, it is believed that the victim got lost while descending from the summit of Mt. Asahidake. A mountaineering expert familiar with the Daisetsu mountain range pointed out, "The route down was to turn left from Kanakoiwa, just below the summit of Mt. Asahidake, then turn right again to head toward Sugatami-no-ike Pond, but it is highly likely that the victim mistook the so-called Nise Kanakoiwa, located at the point where the body turns right, for Kanakoiwa, or descended without noticing the right turn." If he had taken this route, he would have run into a cluster of Japanese stone pine trees along the way and been unable to proceed, but "if the remaining snow had covered the Japanese stone pine trees, it would have been easy to descend, so it may have been too late to notice that he was lost." <An invisible image of the missing person>
Doushin article database
https://db.hokkaido-np.co.jp/article_detail?kijiid=890728MB0011&m=p
1 of 2 11/22/24, 9:02 PM
COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.
All intellectual property rights and other rights related to this service belong to the Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. This service cannot be used by third parties other than the subscriber, regardless of the method, whether paid or free.

Although there are quite a few belongings left behind, it is difficult to get a clear image of the missing person. Among the twelve belongings are toiletries that even contained rinse, and a cassette case with an anime girl printed on it, suggesting that they belonged to the female skeleton. In addition, there were no maps or compasses left behind, and a local mountaineering official said, "The man and woman were not very used to mountains." However, considering that they made the wooden letters after the accident, which were perfect as a landmark, and that they recorded their voices on tape to save energy from shouting loudly, there is a hypothesis that "it may not have been the best, but they acted quite appropriately according to the situation" (Chairman Hayami), which is somewhat different from the image given by the items left behind. Difficult identification Difficult identification Identifying the victims is likely to be difficult in the future. The only way out is if a report is filed by the people involved in the two accidents. If a report is filed, it will be possible to check whether there is a corresponding person on the mountain entry report. However, in the current situation where "only about 20% of climbers in the Daisetsu Mountains file a mountain entry report" (Hokkaido Police Asahimoto), it is difficult to say that a report will immediately lead to identification. The wooden letters are rare, so they have been widely reported nationwide, but it is also strange that there have been no inquiries or reports directly linking the victims to the accident so far.

Artigo 9 - 28/07/1989

Professor Nagata Katsuhiko (social psychology) of the Faculty of Letters at Hokusei Gakuen University, who listened to the tape containing the "SOS" and other messages on the 28th, said, "He spoke calmly throughout, so it is hard to imagine he was in a confused state. I think it was a calm communication to the rescue team."
If a person were to leave a recording in a crisis situation, they would want to leave behind words of gratitude to friends and parents, or proof that they existed in this world. However, the voice on the tape is cheerful and calm throughout, and expresses what should be said very concisely, as if he was reading something that had been written down. If he was in a confused state, there would be some parts that are hard to understand.
Furthermore, since he says "lift me up" and indicates his location, it is believed that he recorded the message to repeat his call, assuming that the rescue helicopter saw the wooden letters "SOS."

Artigo 10 - 28/07/1989

Accident on Mt. Asahidake - surrounded by thick bamboo grass. Search team members descend one after another into the marshland
1989/07/28 (Fri)1989/07/28 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Evening Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 17 442 characters
The Hokkaido Prefectural Police began a second search at the scene in the mountains on the morning of the 28th, looking for clues for a climber who is thought to have been lost, leaving behind a cry of "Help me..." and an "SOS" on a dead tree. I followed the Hokkaido Prefectural Police helicopter and watched the second search from the sky. (Reporter Aihara Hideki)
The Hokkaido Prefectural Police helicopter "Ginrei-go" arrived at the scene at around 8:10 a.m., where the wooden letters of "SOS" could be faintly seen in the marshland on the south side of Mt. Asahidake, where the snowfields were dazzling white. Four officers from the Asahikawa Higashi Police Station descended one after another from the helicopter into the marshland. Small marshes were shining silver all around. Police officers divided into groups to search the area. Following the discovery of a camera tripod, a human skull was also found.

To the west of the scene is a steep snowmelt stream with a series of waterfalls upstream of the Chubetu River, and the marshland is surrounded by a "dense area" of Kumazasa. It is about four kilometers in a straight line to the hiking trail near Asahidake. The victims must have lost both their strength and energy in the Kumazasa and streams, where they could barely move a few hundred meters per hour. Especially without a map or compass. "We can't move on the cliff," "The bamboo is so thick we can't go any higher." I felt like I could understand the desperation of the screams recorded on the tape.

Artigo 11 - 28/07/1989

[Asahikawa] Following the discovery of wooden letters spelling out "SOS" and human bones on the 25th in a valley on the south side of Mount Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains, Asahikawa Higashi Police Station dispatched officers to the scene by helicopter on the morning of the 28th to re-search the area around the wooden letters. As a result, five new items were found, including a human skull and a man's shoes, but the search was terminated at around 11:00 a.m. due to the danger of a bear's den nearby. The police station has requested Asahikawa Medical University to identify the skull, while they are rushing to use the items to identify the female whose bones were found earlier and the young man whose voice was recorded on the cassette tape. In addition, according to an investigation by the Hokkaido Shimbun Press, when an aerial photograph taken by Asahi Kyou (headquarters in Tokyo) above Mount Asahidake in September 1987 was enlarged and enlarged on the same day, it was confirmed that the wooden letters SOS were visible. The skull was found in a valley about 30 meters north of the wooden letters, and its gender is unknown. The police will send it to the medical school for an examination that afternoon to determine the gender and blood type.

The shoes left behind were found about 10 meters away from the skull, and were a green man's left shoe. They were 27 cm in size and made by Levi's.

Other items left behind were an aluminum camera tripod, a piece of gray cloth that appears to be underwear or part of clothing (30 cm long, 12.3 cm wide), a piece of cloth that appears to be part of a white sweatshirt (20 cm long, 30 cm wide), and a tissue bag with the number "1983" written on it (11 cm long, 8.5 cm wide). The camera tripod was made of aluminum and was 81 cm tall when standing. The top of the tripod head on which the camera is attached has the words "LPL JAPAN" written on it, and stickers reading "LPL TEKNO BOY 401D" and "L1221" are attached to the legs.

The tripod is a product of the photo equipment manufacturer "LPL" (headquartered in Higashimurayama, Tokyo), and an investigation by the Hokkaido Shimbun newspaper revealed that the product number indicates that it has been manufactured and sold nationwide for the past four or five years. According to the company, because the products are not numbered consecutively, the specific manufacturing date and sales destination are unknown. The sales destination is also unknown.
Among the items discovered earlier were camera parts from an automatic film winder believed to belong to Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), an office worker from Aichi Prefecture who went missing in July 1984 after taking photographs in the Daisetsu Mountains.

Doushin Article Database
https://db.hokkaido-np.co.jp/article_detail?kijiid=890728EA0180&m=p

COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.

All intellectual property and other rights related to this service belong to the Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. In addition, this service may not be used by any third party other than the contracting party, regardless of the method, whether paid or free of charge.

Because camera parts from an automatic film winder believed to belong to Iwamura Kenji (25), a company employee in the prefecture, were also found, police are rushing to confirm whether the tripod discovered this time may have belonged to Iwamura.

In addition, the newly discovered men's basketball shoes are not used for serious mountain climbing, so police believe that the victim had little experience in mountain climbing and was almost defenseless when he got lost.

Meanwhile, the wooden letters were seen in an aerial photograph taken by Asahi Kyou on September 20, 1987, when the company's Cessna flew over Mount Asahi. This means that the wooden letters were made before that date, and police are using this as important information to narrow down the time of the disappearance.

In addition, Higashi Police Station released the contents of the three cassette tapes that were left behind on the 28th. The A-side of the tape, which contains the man's cry for rescue, is light pop music in the first half, and the back side is an anime story.
Of the remaining two, one contains theme songs from popular anime, such as the theme song for "The Super Dimension Fortress Macross." The other contains music that appears to be a scene from "The Super Dimension Fortress Macross."

Regarding the brown bear den found in the Yusetsu-Zawa, Torao Kudo (72), manager of the Chubetu Fisheries Production Association in Higashikawa Town, Kamikawa District, who knows the area well, said, "You don't hear much about bears appearing around the Yusetsu-Zawa, but bears live in places with water and food, so a wetland like the Yusetsu-Zawa, with an abundance of plants to feed on, is a perfect habitat for bears."

Artigo 12 - 28/07/1989

It was thought that letters could possibly be seen in a photograph taken during a national forest survey near Mt. Asahidake in September two years ago, but on the 28th, when the photograph was enlarged and examined, the wooden letters "SOS" were confirmed.
The Forestry Agency ordered the photograph from the aerial photo surveying company "Asahi Koyo" (headquarters in Tokyo) for a forest planning survey, and the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan later borrowed it for map production, and it was later kept by the Japan Forestry Technology Association in Tokyo.
The photograph was taken on September 20, 1987, from an airplane with a Cessna at an altitude of 3,700 meters. Upon closer inspection, letters such as "S" were found on a 23cm square photographic negative, each letter 0.3mm wide. As the wide area around the melting snow valley was captured in a single photograph, it was difficult to make out the contents of

the letters with the naked eye, but when the photograph was enlarged 15 times, it was clearly visible that the wooden letters "SOS" were visible. Letters were confirmed.
At the time of the photograph, there was no snow around the site, and the location matched the current site. A representative from the Hokkaido Regional Survey Department of the hospital said, "Neither the photographer nor we noticed it at all, but after watching the news and investigating, we found that it was in the photo."

Artigo 13 - 29/07/1989

[Asahikawa] The possibility that the tape containing a cry for help left behind in the "wooden letter disaster" on Mount Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains is growing is growing that they are the owner of the remains.

The parents of Iwamura Kenji, an office worker from Aichi Prefecture (living in Kyoto City), arrived in Asahikawa on the afternoon of the 29th and checked the remains at Asahikawa Higashi Police Station.

When Iwamura's parents were informed of the situation, including a cassette tape, some parts of a camera's automatic film winder, and a man's shoe, they responded, "We'd love to see the remains with our own eyes," and decided to visit the police station at short notice.

Artigo 14 - 29/07/1989

Asahidake "SOS", Mr. Iwamura's strong voice - pronunciation unique to the Kyoto region, the amulet left behind is the name of a shrine near his father's house. Skull, femur, findings indicate "same person" 1989/07/29 (Sat) 1989/07/29 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Charts 27 pages 1464 characters [Asahikawa] In the accident where wooden letters saying "SOS" and human bones were found in a valley on the south side of Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains, the skull found by Asahikawa Higashi Police Station in a re-search on the 28th was identified as that of a woman by findings from Asahikawa Medical University, and it was almost confirmed that it was the same woman as the human bones found in the previous search. In addition, the camera parts and other belongings found that day, along with a recording of a young man pleading for help, are increasingly believed to belong to Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), an office worker from Aichi Prefecture who went missing in the same mountain range in July 1984. As a result, the time difference between the time of the two men and women's disappearances became clear, and it became more likely that they had wandered into the same place by chance at different times.

In addition to the skull, a lower jaw bone was also found nearby during the re-search. Asahikawa Medical University summarized its findings as being female, aged 25-35, had

been dead for 1-3 years, and had no visible injuries, and stated that "there is no inconsistency in assuming that this is the same person as the femur and other bones found earlier."

Meanwhile, of the five new belongings found that day, the police station placed emphasis on a 27-cm men's basketball shoe (left foot) and a camera tripod. (1) A young man's voice was recorded on the tape found on the 25th; (2) Part of the battery box for a Minolta camera's automatic film winder was also found among the items found on the same day; (3) Iwamura regularly used a camera made by the same company, and had brought a camera and tripod with him when he entered the mountain. These facts are believed to have further strengthened the connection between the items and Iwamura.

In addition, according to information provided to the police station on the 28th by three friends from Iwamura's university days, Iwamura liked anime and often listened to theme songs, and the case of the cassette tape found behind the remains also had a girl from the anime printed on it, which matches the fact. Near Iwamura's family home in Kyoto City (Yamanouchimiyamae-cho, Ukyo-ku, Kyoto City), there is a shrine with the same name as the one that sells the amulet found behind the remains, "Sanno Shrine." Furthermore, the Japan Acoustics Laboratory (Uenohara-cho, Yamanashi Prefecture) analyzed a tape containing a male voice that was left behind and found that the "sa, sa, fu, ka, ku" sounds were typical of the Kansai region, particularly the Kyoto region, and that the man was around 25 to 30 years old. Both of these points strengthen the connection with Iwamura.
The skull and pelvis found in the two searches were found to be female, and had been dead for one to three years, according to the medical school's findings. In contrast, Iwamura was lost five years ago, in July 1984, so there is a discrepancy of around two years between the time of his disappearance. Furthermore, it is clear from the mountain entry registration and the stories of those around him that Iwamura was "acting alone" when he climbed the mountain.

It is clear that they were "acting alone."

This situation has raised doubts about the initial assumption that the man and woman were "disappeared at the same time," and it is becoming more likely that the man and woman were disappeared at the same place at different times by coincidence.

Artigo 15 - 29/07/1989

[Asahikawa] Asahikawa Higashi Police Station on the 28th retrieved a woman from the Daisetsu Mountains mountain range who was found with a wooden "SOS" sign on her skull. Teeth were still present in the skull, and there were signs of treatment. The police are working quickly to identify the woman, along with the results of an examination by Asahikawa Medical University, which will be released soon.

In addition, the blood type of a femur found on the 25th, believed to belong to the same woman, was determined to be type A by the same medical university. As of that day, the police station had not received any inquiries about the woman's identity.

Meanwhile, the cassette tape case found at the scene is believed to belong to Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), an Aichi company employee who went missing in the same mountain range in July 1984, and the handwritten song title on the case label is also a strong clue to identifying the victim. As a result, the police will be conducting a handwriting analysis based on the characters on the mountain entry registration form that Iwamura left at the local forestry office when he entered Mt. Asahidake from Sounkyo, and a letter that Iwamura's parents will bring when they arrive in Asahikawa in the afternoon of the 29th.
The police believe that a further search will be difficult because the scene is dangerous, including the presence of a bear's den, but they are carefully considering the timing and method of a further search as there may be further clues remaining.

Artigo 16 - 30/07/1989

"SOS" accident on Mt. Asahidake - Mystery deepens female human remains
1989/07/30 (Sun)1989/07/30 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 339 characters
[Asahikawa] On the 29th, the identity of the male victim of the "SOS" wooden letter accident on Mt. Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains was almost confirmed as Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), an office worker from Aichi Prefecture, but there are still almost no clues to the identity of the female human remains found near the same wooden letter, and the mystery deepens instead. There was no information about the female human remains from the 25th to the 28th when they were discovered. On the 29th, the Asahikawa Higashi Police Station received its first inquiries from Sapporo and Tokushima Prefecture, but they did not provide any clues. What is known so far about the woman is that her blood type was A, she had been dead for one to three years, she was estimated to be about 160cm tall, and there are no personal belongings linking her to the body. The only clue is a tooth with signs of treatment, and unless any personal belongings are found near the scene, it will be extremely difficult to identify her.

Artigo 17 - 30/07/1989

"SOS" accident on Mt. Asahidake - Iwamura's driver's license and other items found, along with 20 more seals, cameras, and membership cards

1989/07/30 (Sun)1989/07/30 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 1319 characters

[Asahikawa] The owner of the "SOS" wooden lettering accident on Mt. Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains, including a recording tape with a voice calling for help, was determined to be Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), a company employee from Shochiku Ueno, Konan City, Aichi Prefecture, based on the driver's license and seal found by staff from the Hokkaido Broadcasting System (HBC) news department who entered the scene on the 29th. More than 20 items were found, and the Asahikawa Higashi Police Station said on the 30th that they would like to have Iwamura's parents and friends, who had been in Asahikawa since the previous day to check the items, make a final confirmation of the identity of the items. Meanwhile, the police will conduct a third search of the site on the 30th, as there is no information on the female human bones found earlier, and it is believed that more of Iwamura's belongings remain.

According to the HBC news department, a four-person team from the company entered Mt. Asahidake on the 28th, and headed to the site of the SOS wooden letters at 6 a.m. on the 29th. They discovered 20 or so belongings, including Iwamura's driver's license, at the base of a large tree about 50 meters north of the last S of the SOS.

The belongings included the driver's license with Iwamura Kenji written on it, as well as a personal seal, a youth hostel membership card, and Minolta and Canon cameras. They are said to be in a bad state of disrepair. No remains were found. Plastic garbage bags and raincoats were found at the site, and the team said it looked like Iwamura had bivouac there.

This contact was made to HBC headquarters by radio via helicopter on the evening of the 29th, but the radio's battery was low, so no information was given about the time of discovery. The group bivouaced near the scene on the night of the 29th.

With the discovery of the crucial new belongings, the police plan to have Iwamura's parents, who arrived in Asahikawa on the 29th, make a final check of the driver's license and other items on the 30th.

In addition, as it is believed that there are still more belongings left by Iwamura, Iwamura's own remains have not yet been found, and no belongings directly linking him to the woman whose bones were found have been found, a helicopter will head to the scene at 8 am that day to conduct a third search. At this time, the police plan to ask the staff of Hokkaido Broadcasting, who have been bivouac there since the previous day, for their cooperation in handing over the new belongings.

COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.
All intellectual property and other rights related to this service belong to the Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. This service cannot be used by third parties other than the contracting party, regardless of the method, whether paid or free of charge.
Meanwhile, Iwamura's parents, Keiichi and Tamie, and a former colleague, spent about three hours on both the 25th and 28th examining the approximately 20 items of belongings recovered from the scene, one by one, with police officers present.
As a result, many similarities were found, such as: (1) the song title written on the back of the cassette tape case that was left behind was similar to Iwamura's handwriting; (2)

Iwamura had previously worn a mountain climbing vest made by the same company as the one left behind; (3) the Levi's men's basketball shoes and shoe box that were found were in Iwamura's company dormitory room; and (4) Iwamura had recorded the same music as the anime program on the tape. None of the items were obviously different from Iwamura's. * Dismantling the "SOS" wooden letters [Asahikawa] Asahikawa Higashi Police Station has already demolished the "SOS" wooden letters that were left in the valley on the south side of Mount Asahi in the Daisetsu Mountains, where Iwamura was lost. The police station said, "This is to prevent aircraft that are unfamiliar with the location from mistaking them for new wooden letters and causing trouble."

Artigo 18 - 31/07/1989

Asahikawa] On the morning of the 30th, Asahikawa Higashi Police Station picked up four reporters from Hokkaido Broadcasting System (HBC), who had been bivouac at the scene of the Kimoji accident since the previous day, on a Hokkaido Prefectural Police helicopter and transported them to Asahikawa city. The headquarters of the broadcasting company had requested the Hokkaido Prefectural Police to send out a helicopter rescue, saying, "There is a risk of bears appearing at the scene, and the staff is becoming very tired."

Artigo 19 - 31/07/1989

Asahikawa] On the morning of the 30th, Asahikawa Higashi Police Station picked up four reporters from Hokkaido Broadcasting System (HBC), who had been bivouac at the scene of the Kimoji accident since the previous day, on a Hokkaido Prefectural Police helicopter and transported them to Asahikawa city. The headquarters of the broadcasting company had requested the Hokkaido Prefectural Police to send out a helicopter rescue, sayi

---

Artigo 20 - 31/07/1989

"SOS" on Mt. Asahidake, who is the woman in the skeleton? Iwamura's body is still undiscovered
1989/07/31 (Mon)1989/07/31 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 22 1288 characters
[Asahikawa] The wooden letter disaster on Mt. Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains was concluded on the 30th when the owner of the belongings left behind was determined to be Iwamura Kenji. However, there are still many unknowns about Iwamura's actions at the time of the disaster, and who is the woman who is thought to have been lost at a different time

from Iwamura? We tried to get to the truth and mystery of the midsummer mountain disaster mystery.
<How long will he survive?> <How long will he survive?>
Iwamura was last seen around 11:30 a.m. on July 11, 1984, near Mt. Nakadake on the way, and it has been five years since he was last seen.
Most of the belongings recovered on the 30th were found in a hole at the base of a forked pine tree. Iwamura had been sleeping in this hole, relying on wooden letters that read SOS as he waited patiently for rescue.

Considering the strength he had to make these wooden letters, Iwamura appears to have still had plenty of energy and stamina immediately after the accident. Hidekazu Shioya (40), a nature exploration guide in the Daisetsu Mountains who lives in Higashikawa Town in the Kamikawa District, speculates, "The length of time a victim can survive depends a lot on their mental strength. If they're mentally strong, they can survive for a week without food or drink. Iwamura probably lived for at least a few days."

The notebook and diary found at the scene may contain records of his last few days. Kiyoshi Hayami, president of the Asahikawa Mountaineering Club, said, "It's not uncommon for victims to leave a record of the situation and their feelings at the time of the accident." However, the contents of the notebook and diary were not made public at the request of his parents, and this point remains a mystery. It became a mystery.

<Why wooden letters>

<Why wooden letters>

It is believed that Iwamura made the wooden letters because there are signs that he slept near them, but why did he build them in such an extreme situation, which would consume his physical strength?

COPYRIGHT © The Hokkaido Shimbun Press.

All intellectual property and other rights related to this service belong to the Hokkaido Shimbun Press or its information providers. In addition, this service cannot be used by third parties other than the contracting party, regardless of the method, whether paid or free of charge.

It is common knowledge among mountaineers that a bonfire on a sunny day is more effective as a landmark. The guide, Shioya, said, "Just in case, I also pack a lighter in my hiking gear, separate from my cigarette lighter." Iwamura doesn't have much experience hiking, and doesn't smoke. It's possible that even if he had thought of making a bonfire, he didn't have any fire and mustered all his strength to make wooden letters. There is a theory

that Iwamoto, an anime fan, got inspiration from "Astro Boy," but he may have had a more pressing motive, such as not having matches or a lighter.

<Where are the remains and belongings?>

Despite three searches by the Hokkaido Prefectural Police near the scene, Iwamura's body and the woman's belongings have not been found. Both Iwamura's and the woman's bodies were moved from their respective locations after being washed away by streams or eaten by animals. Hiroshi Kanno, director of Asahiyama Zoo in Asahikawa City, said, "Brown bears sometimes carry food to a safe place within their territory and bury it."
Shioya also points out that "when people are pushed into an extreme situation right before death, they can do the most unexpected things." He also says that it's possible that Iwamura left the area near the wooden characters where he had bivouac.
<Was the woman lost in July?>
As for the female skeleton, Chairman Hayami speculates that "she descended the snowfield that filled the stream from Mt. Asahidake around the beginning of July and reached the area near the wooden characters."
The basis for this is that in early July, the snowfield would be up to the melting snow stream, making it easy for a woman to descend.

Artigo 21 - 31/07/1989

New sign at Fake Safe Rock at Mt. Asahidake "SOS" - Park rangers enter the mountain

1989/07/31 (Mon)1989/07/31 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Evening Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 9 273 characters

[Asahikawa] Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), an office worker from Konan City, Aichi Prefecture, who was lost in the "SOS" wooden lettering accident on Mt. Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains, is believed to have gotten lost near the so-called "Fake Safe" rock near the summit of Mt. Asahidake. The Daisetsuzan National Park Yukomanbetu Management Office in Higashikawa Town, Kamikawa Prefecture, decided to install a new sign at the Fake Safe Rock site, and on the morning of the 31st, three rangers from the office and Higashikawa Town entered Mt. Asahidake.

There is already a sign indicating the hiking trail at the Fake Safe Rock site, but the purpose of this measure is to increase the number of signs to help prevent accidents.
The police station said it has not received any useful information about the female human skeleton found near the wooden letters.

Artigo 22 - 01/08/1989

New sign installed at Asahidake's Nise Kinko Rock
1989/08/01 (Tue)1989/08/01 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 303 characters

[Asahidake Onsen] A new signpost was installed on the 31st near the so-called "Nise Kinko Rock" near the summit of Asahidake, which may have been one of the causes of the "SOS" disaster on Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsuzan mountain range.

The signpost, erected by four staff members of the Yukomanabetsu Management Office of Daisetsuzan National Park, is made of wood and is 1.3 meters high. Boards with "Asahidake" and "Sugatami Pond" written on them are nailed to each side of the log.

There is an existing signpost on the opposite side of the hiking trail, but it is thought that climbers may not notice it in bad weather, and some experts point out that the company employee (25 at the time) who wrote the wooden letters of "SOS" may have also taken a wrong turn in this area, so it was decided to quickly increase the number of signposts. The management office will continue to carry out regular checks in the future.

Artigo 23 - 03/08/1989

Asahidake SOS, search resumes on the 3rd - after 4 days, area expanded
1989/08/03 (Thu)1989/08/03 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 354 characters
[Asahikawa] Asahikawa Higashi Police Station will conduct a fourth search on the scene of the Asahidake wooden lettering accident in the Daisetsuzan mountain range from the morning of the 3rd. The search will be conducted in a slightly wider area as there is a possibility that the body of Aichi Prefecture company employee Kenji Iwamura (25 at the time), whose belongings were last confirmed as the person's on July 30th, and the human remains of a woman may still be found.
The searchers are 12 people, including police officers and local disaster relief association members who are familiar with the geography of the site. The area around the wooden lettering, which has been searched three times so far, may contain belongings and remains, so a thorough search will be conducted, including digging up the soil. They will also expand the search area to include the upper and lower reaches of the Melt Snow Valley to the west of the site where the wooden characters were found, which has not been searched in earnest until now. The search will begin at 9:00 a.m. and run from 4:00 p.m., with police arriving at the site by helicopter. The police station effectively ended the search of the site on

July 30th, when they made a final check of Iwamura's belongings, including his driver's license.

Artigo 24 - 04/08/1989

Asahidake "SOS" accident - 30 new pieces of human bones discovered, one person's hair as well. No female remains
1989/08/04 (Fri)1989/08/04 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 23 779 characters
[Asahikawa] Asahikawa Higashi Police Station, which conducted its fourth search of the scene of the SOS wooden letter accident on Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains, discovered 30 pieces of human bones, including femurs and spines, hair, and three other items, including a man's watch, on the afternoon of the 3rd. All of the items are believed to belong to Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), an office worker from Aichi Prefecture, whose identity was finally confirmed on July 30th, and no remains linked to the "female human bones," the focus of the current search, were found.
On the morning of the 4th, the police requested that Asahikawa Medical University identify the gender, blood type, etc. of the bones and hair discovered that day, and will wait for the results of the analysis before deciding whether to conduct a re-search of the site.
The bones discovered included one femur, one tibia, and 30 pieces of vertebrae. They were found in a patch of grass about three meters north of the woman's skull discovered in the search on July 28th.
Based on the location and circumstances in which they were discovered, the police believe that these bones are either Iwamura's remains, or other parts of the female bones discovered in the searches on July 25th and 28th. However, the femur discovered that day was 39 centimeters long, 2 centimeters shorter than the left femur (41 centimeters) of the woman found earlier. Iwamura's height was 165cm, which is taller than the estimated height of the woman found in the remains (around 160cm), but the police will wait for the results of blood type tests (Iwamura's was O, the woman's was A) conducted by Asahikawa Medical University to determine his true height, as differences in height can occur even within the same person due to illness.
The hair and other personal belongings were also found in a marshland about seven meters further north from the bones. The longest hair was about 13cm long, and although there was no scalp or skull, it was almost the amount for one human.
The personal belongings included a man's wristwatch, a piece of fabric from a gray vest with the company name "Minolta" printed on it, and a piece of fabric that appears to be underwear. Of these, the wristwatch was a man's "Seiko Quartz". Based on their characteristics, the police believe that the watch and other personal belongings belonged to Iwamura, and will inquire with his parents, who live in Kyoto City, on the 4th.

Artigo 25 - 04/08/1989

Asahikawa Medical University finds that the bones found in the Asahidake accident are the same woman. Search at the scene to be terminated

1989/08/05 (Sat)1989/08/05 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 22 628 characters
[Asahikawa] Asahikawa Medical University, which was asked to examine the bones found on the 3rd in the Asahidake wooden lettering accident in the Daisetsu Mountains, summarized its findings on the 4th that "the femur and other bones are very similar to the bones of women found so far," and Asahikawa Higashi Police Station is also increasingly of the opinion that the bones are the same woman. As the remains, such as a man's wristwatch, found at the same time, are almost certainly those of Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), an office worker from Aichi Prefecture, who was lost at the scene, the police station has decided to no longer search the scene, as the investigation into the accident has been completed. The police requested that the remains be examined, including one femur, one tibia, and 30 pieces of vertebrae, as well as the amount of hair for one human.

According to the medical school's findings, both the femur and fibula are from the right leg. Determination of gender, blood type, and time since death will be made after the official examination, but they stated that "in terms of age, length, and thickness, they are very similar to the left femur and left fibula of women previously discovered." As for the fact that the right femur is 39 centimeters long, two centimeters shorter than the left femur found on July 25th, they stated that "the joint at the top of the bone is chipped due to weathering."

As a result, the police believe that the possibility that the series of human bones, including the other vertebrae, belong to the same woman has increased, and they will proceed with the process of identifying the remains pending the results of the examination. The gender and blood type of the hair are pending the results of the examination. Meanwhile, it has been discovered that among the items left behind, such as a man's wristwatch, a piece of fabric from a vest was found to be the same type of vest that Iwamura had bought with a friend, and it is believed that, together with the wristwatch, it definitely belonged to Iwamura.

Artigo 26 - 28/02/1991

"Wooden letter SOS" on Mt. Asahidake, part of bone belongs to Iwamura - Asahikawa Medical University Appraisal
1991/02/28 (Thu)1991/02/28 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 30 684 characters
[Asahikawa] The Asahikawa Higashi Police Station, which was investigating the accident in July of last year where wooden letters saying "SOS" and human bones were found on the middle slope of Mt. Asahidake (2,290 meters) in the Daisetsu Mountains, determined by the 27th that the human bones found near the scene, other than the female bones, were those of Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), a company employee from Shochiku Ueno, Konan City, Aichi Prefecture, where belongings such as a camera were found. This confirmed that Iwamura was lost at the site where the wooden SOS letters were found.
At the scene of the accident, a femur and part of a pelvis from a woman thought to have been dead for one to three years were found, and about 30 bone fragments, including a femur, a tibia, and a spine, were found in a grassy area several dozen meters away. Initially,

it was thought that the bones might be those of the woman discovered earlier, but further investigations made it more likely that they belonged to a man. Meanwhile, only Iwamura's belongings were found at the scene, and the remains could not be identified.

As a result, an examination was requested from Asahikawa Medical University, which confirmed that the unknown bones matched Iwamura's in terms of gender and detailed blood type, and the final examination was recently completed.

This confirmed that Iwamura and an unidentified woman had both been lost at different times at the site of Mt. Asahidake.

The accident occurred on July 25th of last year, when a Hokkaido Prefectural Police helicopter was searching above Mt. Asahidake on another rescue mission when it discovered wooden letters in a melting snow valley on the mountain's slopes. As a result of the search, a recording of a man's voice crying out "SOS, help me!", a notebook, a camera and other belongings were found at the scene, along with human bones. Among them was Iwamura's driver's license, and it was believed he had definitely been lost.
Iwamura had disappeared in July 1984 after entering the Daisetsu mountain range to take photographs. The woman's identity has not yet been identified.

Artigo 27 - 01/03/1991

Asahidake "SOS", all bones are Iwamura's - Asahi Medical University examination. No female victims
1991/03/01 (Fri)1991/03/01 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 30 608 characters
[Asahikawa] In the summer of last year, in which wooden letters saying "SOS" and human bones were discovered on Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains, Asahikawa Higashi Police Station confirmed on the 28th that the human bones, which had previously been thought to be those of a woman, were those of Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), a company employee from Shochiku Ueno, Konan City, Aichi Prefecture. The final examination showed that all blood types and other details matched Iwamura's, and as a result, it was concluded that Iwamura was the only person lost at the scene, and there were no women lost, and the police station's investigation was concluded. The remains will be handed over to Iwamura's parents on the 1st. On July 25th and 28th of the year before last, a left femur and skull were discovered at the scene of the accident, and on August 3rd, a right femur, sternum, and a single head of hair were found in a different location.
Initial examinations by Asahikawa Medical University suggested that all of the bones were female, due to the feminine shape of the pelvis and the fact that Iwamura's blood type was type A, which was different from Iwamura's type O. However, since there was no other woman who fit the description of the accident and only her belongings were found at the scene, the police station asked the university for a more detailed examination.
As a result, the blood type was determined to be type O based on the hair and dental pulp, and it was estimated that the blood type of the lower half of the body, which was type A, had

been exposed to wind and snow for a long period of time, causing blood substances in the bone marrow to flow out, changing the blood type.
A superimposition of a photograph of the skull and a photograph of the face from when the victim was alive also showed that the two matched.
Iwamura entered the mountain in July 1984, and five years had passed since the bones were discovered, but when asked why the bones were found to have been found one to three years after death, he said, "There could be a range of about two years."

Artigo 28 - 02/03/1991

SOS accident on Mt. Asahidake, father in tears meets Iwamura's remains, sent to Kyoto
1991/03/02 (Sat)1991/03/02 ( ) Hokkaido Shimbun Morning Edition All Hokkaido (Society) Page 29 451 characters
[Asahikawa] In the summer of last year, wooden letters saying "SOS" were found on Mt. Asahidake in the Daisetsu Mountains, and the examination of the remains and hair revealed that Iwamura Kenji (25 at the time), a company employee from Shochiku Ueno, Konan City, Aichi Prefecture, died in the accident. His father, Keiichi (65) (22 Yamanouchi Miyamae-cho, Ukyo Ward, Kyoto City), came to Asahi and received the remains from Asahikawa Higashi Police Station at Asahikawa Medical University on the 1st. Keiichi expressed his sad feelings as a parent, saying, "I want to hold a funeral as soon as possible."
Kenji went missing in July 1984 while climbing the Daisetsu Mountains for his hobby of photography. On the 10th of that month, he called Keiichi from Sounkyo Onsen at the foot of the mountain, saying, "Tomorrow, I'm going to climb Mt. Kurodake," and those were his last words. For the past seven years, he has offered prayers to Keiichi every day. At a press conference at the police station, Keiichi expressed his feelings, saying, "I have mixed emotions, with joy that we can finally bring him home and loneliness that the decisive moment has come." He bowed deeply with tears in his eyes to the police and other related parties, saying, "I'm sorry for causing you so much trouble for so long. Thank you very much." The remains were interred in Asahikawa on the same day, and Keiichi returned to Kyoto in his arms.